

What is claimed is:

1. An image recording apparatus for recording an image signal of an arbitrary image including a still picture and a moving picture on a prescribed recording medium, comprising:

image generating means for generating an image signal of the arbitrary image;

related information storing means for storing registration information of a registration image containing information about a copyright of the arbitrary image and related information relating to the registration image;

registration image data storing means for storing image data of the registration image;

image combining control means for reading out the registration image data, generating a registration image signal based on the registration image data by referring to the related information, and generating a combined image signal by combining the registration image signal with the image signal of the arbitrary image; and

combined image output means for outputting the combined image signal to an arbitrary device including the prescribed recording medium.

2. The image recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the registration image data storing means is detachable, and wherein the combined image output means does not record the combined image signal on the prescribed recording medium if the

registration image data does not exist in the registration image data storing means.

3. The image recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the image generating means is imaging means for producing an image by shooting a prescribed object and converting it into an image signal.

4. The image recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the related information storing means stores, in setting the registration image, prescribed judgment information to be used for judging legitimacy of the registration image data.

5. The image recording apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the related information storing means is a nonvolatile memory.

6. The image recording apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising setting input means for inputting prescribed setting information including a setting of the registration image and a setting relating to display of the registration image, and for storing the setting information in the related information storing means.

7. An image recording apparatus for recording an image signal of an arbitrary image including a still picture and a moving picture on a prescribed recording medium, comprising:

image generating means for generating an image signal of the arbitrary image;

related information storing means for storing

registration information of a prescribed registration image to be combined with the arbitrary image and related information relating to the registration image;

detachable registration image data storing means for storing image data of the registration image;

image combining control means for reading out the registration image data, generating a registration image signal based on the registration image data by referring to the related information, and generating a combined image signal by combining the registration image signal with the image signal, if the registration image data exists in the registration image data storing means; and

combined image output means for outputting the combined image signal to an arbitrary device including the prescribed recording medium only if the registration image data exists.

8. The image recording apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the image generating means is imaging means for producing an image by shooting a prescribed object and converting it into image data.

9. The image recording apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the related information storing means stores, in setting the registration image, prescribed judgment information to be used for judging legitimacy of the registration image data.

10. The image recording apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the related information storing means is a nonvolatile

memory.

11. The image recording apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising setting input means for inputting prescribed setting information including a setting of the registration image and a setting relating to display of the registration image, and for storing the setting information in the related information storing means.

12. An image processing method for an image recording apparatus that records an image signal of an arbitrary image including a still picture and a moving picture on a prescribed recording medium, comprising the steps of:

storing, in advance, registration information of a registration image containing information about a copyright of the arbitrary image, related information relating to the registration image, and image data of the registration image;

generating an image signal of the arbitrary image;

reading out the registration image data;

generating a registration image signal based on the registration image data by referring to the related information;

generating a combined image signal by combining the registration image signal with the image signal of the arbitrary image; and

recording the combined image signal on the prescribed recording medium.

13. An image processing method for an image recording

apparatus that records an image signal of an arbitrary image including a still picture and a moving picture on a prescribed recording medium, comprising the steps of:

storing, in advance, in a prescribed, detachable recording medium, registration information of a prescribed registration image to be combined with the arbitrary image, related information relating to the registration image, and image data of the registration image;

generating an image signal of the arbitrary image;

judging whether the registration image data exists in the detachable recording medium;

reading out the registration image data, generating a registration image signal based on the registration image data by referring to the related information, generating a combined image signal by combining the registration image signal with the image signal of the arbitrary image, and recording the combined image signal on the prescribed recording medium, if the registration image data exists; and

refraining from recording the combined image signal on the prescribed recording medium if the registration image data does not exist.